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10/025,926	12/26/2001	Hidehiko Yokoyama	35.C16078	7398

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EXAMINER	
DALEY, CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2111	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/025,926	YOKOYAMA, HIDEHIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher A Daley	2111	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 December 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-64* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-64* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 - 64 are pending.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the length of the submitted abstract is much greater than the recommended length of 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1 – 9, 11-14,16-18,20-22,24-33,35-38,40-41,43-52,54-57,59-60,62-64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nagashima (US6438574).

5. As to claim 1, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus comprising:

a management means for managing ID information determined for each user and address location information associated with the ID information; (Nagashima teaches of a means (ID cards) that are used to store each user info, such as address location, COL. 6, lines 33 - 37, Figure 5)

an input means with which the user inputs the ID information; (Nagashima teaches of a control console, Figure 3 that allows for the input of ID information)

and an obtaining means for specifying the address location information managed by the management means using the inputted ID information, communicating with an external apparatus via a predetermined communication medium on the basis of the address location information, and obtaining communication information residing at an address location specified by the address location information. (Nagashima teaches of a touch sensitive control panel, 56 of Figure 3 that is used to communicate with the external apparatus such as the printer or the scanner. The input ID is entered via the input ID key, 57 of Figure 3. , COL. 5, lines 9 - 16).

6. As to claim 2, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
a display means for displaying the communication information obtained by the obtaining means. (Nagashima teaches of a liquid crystal panel that is capable of displaying the communication info, COL. 5, lines 5 - 9).

7. As to claim 3, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 2, where the display means separately displays communication information possessed by the multifunctional apparatus from the beginning and the communication information obtained from the external apparatus. (Nagashima teaches the liquid crystal display (56 of Figure 3) is separate from the input means (57 - 63), COL. 5, lines 9 - 26).

8. As to claim 4, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 2, where the display means displays communication information possessed by the multifunctional apparatus from the beginning and the communication information obtained from the external apparatus at the same time by combining the possessed communication information and the obtained communication information. (Nagashima teaches that

information gained from the beginning from the ID card is displayed at the top of the screen, and the subsequent information is displayed lower on the liquid crystal display, COL. 5, lines 44 - 46, Figure 4).

9. As to claim 5, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a selection means for selecting a desired communication destination candidate from the communication information displayed by the display means. (Nagashima teaches of various display columns specifying the desired destination candidate, COL. 5, lines 48 - 61. Cursor keys 81, 81 of figure 4 can be used to select the destination, COL. 5, lines 62 - 63).

10. As to claim 6, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a selection means for selecting a desired communication destination candidate from the communication information displayed by the display means. (Nagashima teaches that Cursor keys 81, 81 of figure 4 can be used to select the destination, COL. 5, lines 62 - 63).

11. As to claim 7, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a selection means for selecting a desired communication destination candidate from the communication information displayed by the display means. (Nagashima teaches that Cursor keys 81, 81 of figure 4 can be used to select the destination, COL. 5, lines 62 - 63).

12. As to claim 8, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 1, where the communication information is address information that specifies a communication destination. (Nagashima teaches that the communication information such as email is the destination, COL. 5, lines 44 -46, Figure 4).

13. As to claim 9, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 8, where the address information is address information converted by the external apparatus into a data format that is usable at the multifunctional apparatus.(Nagashima teaches in an example how the address information is converted into performing a print command as designated, Col. 6, lines 43 - 47).

14. As to claim 11, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: an authentication means for authenticating the user on the basis of the ID information inputted with the input means and the information managed by the management means. (Nagashima teaches of the use of an ID card to authenticate the user, Col. 6, line 66 - COL. 7, line 8).

15. As to claim 12, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a control means for controlling the obtaining means and the management means, where when the ID information is inputted with the input means, the control means judges whether or not it is required to obtain the communication information on the basis of a predetermined condition. (Nagashima teaches of the ID code being stored in the header of transmission, and only transmission data that would be printed out, COL. 7, lines 15 - 18).

16. As to claims 13,37, and 56 Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus method and control program, where the predetermined condition is timing information that determines

intervals between operations for obtaining the communication information. (Nagashima teaches of data being temporarily read by one computer, and then further transmission is based on the user ID code. If ID is authentic, transmission of data to the printer is possible, COL. 7, lines 40 - 49).

17. As to claims 14,38, and 57, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus, method and control program where it is possible to define the timing information for each user managed by the management means. (Nagashima teaches of using multiple computers to employ function, COL. 7, lines 55 - 63. However one may attach a password to a job, that would limit how it is handled, COL. 8, lines 15 - 27, Figure 7).

18. As to claim 16, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus according to claim 1, where the management means manages the ID information and the address location information by utilizing a nonvolatile storage medium. (Nagashima teaches that the ID information is stored on a floppy disk, CD-R, non-volatile type memory card, ROM, COL. 14, lines 19 - 23).

19. As to claims 17, 21,40 and 59, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus, method, and control program capable

of communicating with an external apparatus via a predetermined communication medium, comprising:

a management means for managing communication information concerning the external apparatus; (Nagashima teaches of managing communication on a multifunction apparatus shown in the embodiment of Figure 2. This apparatus comprises of external apparatus such as scanner (44), keyboards 22,29,37 of Figure 2).

a reception means for receiving, from the external apparatus, a request to obtain the communication information managed by the management means; (Nagashima teaches of a means that allows for the reception of information as illustrated in Figure 1. There are computers (1,2,3), server (4) to manage faxes and emails, and a digital copier 10, COL.3 lines 50 - 62).

and a transfer means for transferring the communication information to the external apparatus, which has requested the communication information, on the basis of the request. (Nagashima teaches of a means of transferring information to external apparatus as illustrated in Figure 1. Server (4) transfers faxes, and email, as does digital copier (10) and computers (1- 3).

20. As to claims 18,22,41, and 60 Nagashima discloses a multifunctional information processing apparatus, method and

control program using: a data conversion means for converting, on the basis of the request received by the reception means, the communication information managed by the management means into a data format usable at the external apparatus. (Nagashima teaches of converting information into PDL and using this format for all element of the multi-function apparatus to afford higher machine productivity, COL. 2, lines 6 - 21).

21. As to claims 20,24,43,and 62, Nagashima discloses a multifunctional, information processing apparatus and method, where the transfer means transfers the communication information using a predetermined communication protocol. (Nagashima teaches of using the predetermined communication protocol of Page Description Language, Col.2, and lines 16 - 21).

22. As to claims 25 and 44, Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program comprising: a management step for managing ID information determined for each user and address location information associated with the ID

information;(Nagashima teaches of storing ID information in an ID card. User name, ID code, password, and addresses to pertinent portions of the multifunction apparatus is captured, COL. 6, lines 34 - 37, Figure 5).

an input step in which the user inputs the ID information; (Nagashima teaches of users placing the ID cards(15 - 18) in ID card recognition units (11 - 14) to gain access to the system, COL. 6, lines 26 - 32).

and an obtaining step for specifying the address location information managed in the management step using the inputted ID information, communicating with an external apparatus via a predetermined communication medium on the basis of the address location information, and obtaining communication information residing at an address location specified by the address location information. (Nagashima teaches that when the user has gained access to the system, the ID card recognition unit will allow tasks as allowed by the information resident of the ID card, COL. 6, lines 42 - 50).

23. As to claims 26,and 45 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program:

a display step for displaying the communication information obtained in the obtaining step. (Nagashima teaches that the

communication information is displayed on the touch panel. Figure 4 illustrates samples of this display, COL. 5, lines 38 - 43).

24. As to claims 27,and 46 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program, where in the display step, communication information possessed by the multifunctional apparatus from the beginning and the communication information obtained from the external apparatus are separately displayed. (Nagashima teaches that the user panel (see Figure 4) is used to view the communication information from the multifunctional apparatus as header information, which is separate from the external apparatus information).

25. As to claims 28,and 47 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program, where in the display step, communication information possessed by the multifunctional apparatus from the beginning and the communication information obtained from the external apparatus are combined with each other and displayed at the same time. (Nagashima teaches that the communication information possessed by the apparatus and the information from the external apparatus can be combined and

displayed by using the preview button (83) on the touch panel, see Figure 4).

26. As to claims 29,and 48 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program:

a selection step for selecting a desired communication destination candidate from the communication information displayed in the display step. (Nagashima teaches of a variety of desired destination on the touch panel in Figure 4)

27. As to claims 30,31,and 49, Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program:

a selection step for selecting a desired communication destination candidate from the communication information displayed in the display step. (Nagashima teaches of using the scroll keys (81,82 of Figure 4) to select to select a job, COL. 5, lines 62 - 63).

28. As to claims 32,and 51 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program, where the communication information is address information that specifies a

communication destination. (Nagashima teaches in Figure 4 of Job. No. 2 being sent to fax address=0001).

29. As to claims 33,and 52 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program, where the address information is address information converted by the external apparatus into a data format that is usable at the multifunctional apparatus. (Nagashima teaches that fax address=0001 need to be converted to associated fax destination, of Figure 2)

30. As to claims 35,and 54 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program comprising:

an authentication step for authenticating the user on the basis of the ID information inputted in the input step and the information managed in the management step. (Nagashima teaches of requiring a password in step 11 of Figure 7, COL. 8, lines 15 - 27).

31. As to claims 36,and 55 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program comprising:

a control step for controlling the obtaining step and the management step, where when the ID information is inputted in

the input step, the control step judges whether or not it is required to obtain the communication information on the basis of a predetermined condition. (Nagashima teaches of requiring a password in step 11 of Figure 7, COL. 8, and lines 15 - 27).

32. As to claim 63 and 64 Nagashima discloses a computer-readable recording medium storing the control program. Nagashima teaches of storing the program codes on a system that is usable by a computer system, COL. 14, lines 7 - 19).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

33. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

34. Claims 10,19,23,34,42,53,61 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagashima (US6438574).

35. As to claims 10,19,23,34,42,53,61 Nagashima discloses a multifunctional apparatus, control program and data processing method. Nagashima does not teach the communication information is data written in an XML language. (Nagashima teaches that a page description language (PDL) is employed to store information, COL. 1, line 64 - Col. 2. line 5).
At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use PDL, because applicant has not disclosed that data written in XML and converted to XML provides an advantage. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally as well with the usage of PDL, because both languages control contents on a page.

36. As to claims 15,39, and 58 Nagashima discloses a data processing method and control program comprising:

an update step for forcibly obtaining the communication information even in a case where the obtaining step is controlled in the control step on the basis of the predetermined condition so as not to obtain the communication information even if the ID information is inputted.

Conclusion

37. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher A Daley whose telephone number is 703 605 4214. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am. - 4p m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703 305 4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CAD

CAD
September 8, 2004

TIM VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER